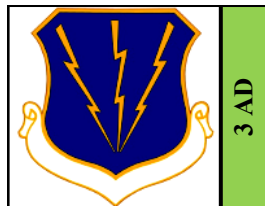


3d Air Division, 1 Jan 1975 – 12 Sep 1988

Maj Gen Charles F. Minter Sr., 1 Jan 1975
Maj General Thomas F. Rew, Aug. 20, 1975
Maj Gen Hilding L. Jacobson Jr., Aug. 17, 1976
Maj Gen Andrew Pringle, 30 Apr 1978
Maj Gen Louis C. Buckman, 13 August 1979
Maj Gen Stanley C. Beck, 12 Aug 1980
Brig Gen Clarence R. Autery, 27 Aug 1982
Lt Gen E.G. "Buck" Shuler Jr, July 1984
Maj Gen Donald L. Marks, July 1986



(3d Air Div departed AAFB to Hickam, 12 Sep 1988)

13th Air Force, 2 Dec 1991 -- 1 May 2005

Maj Gen H. Hale Burr, Jr., 2 Dec 1991
Lt Gen Richard T. Swope, 21 Jul 1994
Maj Gen John R. Dallager, 22 Apr 1996
Lt Gen Thomas C. Waskow, 20 Aug 1998
Maj Gen Daniel M. Dick, May 1999
Maj Gen Theodore W. "Bill" Lay II, 14 Nov 2000
Lt Gen Dennis R. Larsen, 21 Sep 2002
Gen Edward A. Rice, Jr., 24 Jan 2005



(13 AF departed AAFB to Hickam, 1 May 2005)

36th Air Expeditionary Wing, 20 Feb 2004

Col Paul K. White, 1 May 2005
Maj Gen Michael Boera, Jun 2005

36th Wing, 15 Mar 2006

Lt Gen Douglas H. Owens, 25 Oct 2006
Brig Gen Philip Rulhman, 2 Sep 2008
Brig Gen John W. Doucette, 25 Jun 2010
Brig Gen Steven D. Garland, 26 Jun 2012
Maj Gen Andrew J. Toth, 19 Jun 2014
Brig Gen Douglas A. Cox, 6 May 2016
Brig Gen Gentry W. Boswell, 8 Jun 2018



Other USAAF/USAF Wing's assigned to Andersen AFB, Guam

314th Bombardment Wing, 17 Jan 45 – 15 Apr 46
19th Bombardment Wing, 17 Aug 48 – 1 Jun 53
6319th Air Base Wing, 1 Jun 53 – 1 Apr 55
3960th Air Base/Strategic Wing, 1 Apr 55 – 1 Jul 70
43d Strategic/Bomb Wing, 1 Jul 70 – 1 Oct 89
633d Air Base Wing, 1 Oct 89 – 1 Oct 94
36th Air Base/Expeditionary/Wing, 1 Oct 94–



ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, GUAM



1949



1955



1968



1994

75TH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE USAF HERITAGE ON GUAM PAMPHLET 1945–2020

Read about one of the most historic active air
force bases in the United States Air Force

(Includes the 36th Wing's History, 1994–Current)

Compiled and written by Jeffrey Meyer, 36th Wing Historian, Apr 2019

Any questions concerning this Heritage Pamphlet please call:
36th Wing Public Affairs Office (36 WG/PA) at 366-2228.

INTENTIONALLY BLANK

INTENTIONALLY BLANK

Chronological List: Most Senior Commanders at Andersen AFB

Each commander's highest rank achieved in the USAF

North Field, Guam, 03 February 1945

314th Bombardment Wing (Very Heavy), 17 January 45

Gen Thomas S. Power, 29 Aug 1944

Col Carl R. Storrie, 23 Jul 1945

19th Bombardment Group (Very Heavy), 15 May 46

Col Vincent M. Miles Jr, 1 Mar 1946

Col Elbert D. Reynolds, 13 Apr 1946

Col David Wade, 26 Apr 1947

Col Francis C. Shoemaker, 8 Nov 1947

Col Robert V. DeShazo, 2 Dec 1947

19th Bombardment Wing (Medium), 17 August 48

Lt Col Clarence G. Poff, 17 Aug 1948

Col Robert V. DeShazo, 24 Sep 1948

Maj Gen Alvan C. Kincaid, 16 May 1949

Brig Gen Alfred R. Maxwell, 1 Jun 1949

North Field becomes Andersen Air Force Base, 7 October 1949

Col Frederick E. Calhoun, 26 Nov 1949

Brig Gen Adlai H. Gilkeson, 29 Nov 1949

Brig Gen Robert W.C. Wamsatt, 27 May 1951

6319th Air Base Wing, 1 June 53 - 18 Jun 1954

Brig Gen Robert W.C. Wamsatt, 1 June 53

Col Edwin G. Simenson, 12 Jun 53

3d Air Division, 18 Jun 1954 - 1 Apr 1970

Maj Gen Joseph D. Caldara, 18 Jun 1954

Brig Gen Nils O. Ohman, 10 Feb 1955

Maj Gen Charles W. Schott, 1 Oct 1956

Lt Gen Richard M. Montgomery, 3 Sep 1958

Maj Gen John M. Reynolds, 2 Aug 1959

Maj General William C. Kingsbury, 7 Jul 1961

Brig General Harold W. Ohlke, 2 Jul 1963

Maj Gen William J. Crumm, 16 July 1965

Brig Gen John W. Kline, 7 Jul 1967

Lt Gen Selmon Willard Wells, 8 July 1967

Lt Gen Alvan C. Gillem II, 6 June 1968

8th Air Force, 1 Jul 1970 - 1 Jan 1975

Lt Gen Alvan C. Gillem II, 1 Apr 1970

Brig Gen Leo C. Lewis, 11 Jul 1970

Lt Gen Sam J. Byerley, 1 Aug 1970

Lt Gen Gerald W. Johnson, 14 Sep 1971

Lt Gen George H. McKee, 1 Oct 1973



314 BW



19 BG/BW



3 AD



8 AF

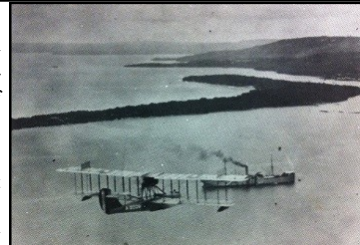
EARLY AVIATION ON GUAM, 1921-1944

Cover Photograph: Formation of B-29 Superfortresses from the 19th Bombardment Group, 314th Bombardment Wing, 20th Air Force, prepare to land at North Field (Future Andersen Air Force Base), Guam, during World War II. (USAAF)

19 Sep 1921, 8:35 am, the first recorded flight of any aircraft on Guam occurred. The USMC seaplane's flight log for that day simply stated, "N-9 2335 launched." It is possible that earlier flights occurred. The military maintained an aviation presence of approximately six aircraft on Guam until 1931.

27 Mar 1935, the steamer S.S. North Haven set sail from Pan American Airways' (Pan Am) San Francisco Bay base at Alameda, CA to establish seaplane bases in Hawaii, Midway, Wake Island, Guam, and Manila. On Guam they occupied the old USMC's Sumay seaplane facilities.

5 Oct 1935, Pan Am's *Hong Kong Clipper*, a Sikorsky S-42, seaplane landed at Apra Harbor, Guam for the first time and taxied into the newly completed seaplane base at the seaside village of Sumay.



Pfc Art Price of the USMC's Air Squadron photographed this flight over Apra Harbor in 1923.



A Pan Am Martin M-130 Seaplane in Sumay, Guam circa 1935-1936.

22 Nov 1935, amid much fanfare, the first Pan Am Martin M-130 seaplane called the *China Clipper* took off from Alameda, CA with 1,837 pounds of mail. This officially opened the Trans-Pacific route.

21 Oct 1936, the *China Clipper*, again made history by carrying the first nine paying passengers across the Pacific Ocean; California to Manila and back in 15 days. Those passengers paid \$1,438.20 (Approx. \$24K today!) each for the round trip ticket.

2 Jul 1937, famous woman aviator Amelia Earhart disappeared while circumnavigating the globe. The last airfield she took off from was Lae, Papua New Guinea approximately 1,400 miles south of Guam. Her guide, Fred Noonan was an experienced Pacific Ocean navigator of the Pan Am Clippers and passed

through Guam many times.

29 Jul 1938, 6:08 am, the Pan Am *Hawaiian Clipper* took off from Apra Harbor, Guam, to Manila, Philippines with 15 souls onboard and was never seen again. After an extensive search nothing was ever found of the seaplane. Its disappearance remains a mystery to this day.

8 Dec 1941, Sumay's Pan Am facilities were bombed from the Japanese aircraft, taking out the Libugon radio and Standard Oil fuel depot. The Marine Barracks and Piti Navy Yard were also hit. Ten Chamorro Pan Am employees were killed, and 32 others on Guam and Wake Island were interred for the duration of the war.

8 Dec 1941, *Philippine Clipper* was on a routine flight, from Wake Island to Guam carrying a Flying Tiger pilot and cargo full of airplane tires all bound for China when it heard that Guam had been attacked. The seaplane returned to Wake Island where it sustained 60 bullet holes from a Japanese strafing attacks, it still managed to return safely to Hawaii. The start of WWII ended Pan Am's seaplane Trans-Pacific route and the Clippers were transferred to the U.S. Navy.



Pan Am Facilities, Sumay, Guam, 1935-41.

1942-1943 Japanese constructed two airfields using Chamorro and Korean labor. These airfields were called *Guamu Dai Ichi* (Guam No.1) located at the Orote Peninsula and the other *Guamu Dai Ni* (Guam No. 2) located at Tiyan. *Guamu Dai Ni*, Tiyan, later became Naval Air Station (NAS) Agana. Currently, the same airfield is Guam main airport called Antonio B. Won Pat International Airport.*

* **Antonio Borja Won Pat** (10 Dec 1908 - 1 May 1987): Guam's first Delegate to serve on the U.S. House of Representatives, 1973-1985.



Pan Am's 1930s Logo
(pamanair.org)

GUAM'S WWII AVIATION HISTORY, 1944-1946



Less than nine months after the Liberation of Guam, the island was a large runway complex with five airfields; two Navy (USN) and three Army Air Forces (USAAF). The three AAF B-29 Superfortress airfields were Guam Depot Field (Later called Harmon AFB), North Field (Later named Andersen AFB), and Northwest Field.

25 Apr 1944, the fight to retake Guam started with the 7th Air Force's (7 AF) bombing and photo reconnaissance missions of the island.

19-20 Jun 1944, Battle of the Philippine Sea, "The Marianas Turkey Shoot," the last major battle between aircraft carrier forces was fought just west of Guam. Most of the remaining Japanese naval aircraft were lost in this battle, including those from Guam's airfields *Guamu Dai Ichi* and *Guamu Dai Ni*.

21 Jul 1944, American forces began their invasion at Asan and Agat. This date is now celebrated as Guam's "Liberation Day."



42 BS, 11 BG, B-24 flies over Guam Depot (Harmon) Field 1945.

8-10 Aug 1944, the last tank engagement took place on the Salisbury-Tarague Trail on the road leading to today's "Sander's Slope" on Andersen AFB. Seven Japanese tanks were either destroyed by M4 Sherman tanks, or abandoned by their crews.

11 Aug 1944, Guam was declared secure after last tank engagement the day before. However, Lt Gen Hideyoshi Obata's headquarters at Mt. Mataguac, Yigo, didn't fall until the following day. The Peace Memorial is located at the same location today.

6 Sep 1944, Construction at Guam Depot Field commenced Known as Harmon Industrial Park today). Most of all three USAAF airfields on Guam were built by segregated Engineer Aviation Battalions.

21 Oct 1944, B-24 Liberators of the 11th Bomb Group (11 BG) arrived on Guam. Temporary assigned to the Navy's Agana Field, Tiyan, later called Naval Air Station (NAS) Agana began bombing missions against nearby Japanese-held islands. The 11 BG was the first US Army Air Force flying unit assigned to Guam.

13 Nov 1944, four men of the 854th Engineer Aviation Battalion (854 EAB) worked on a drafting table under a tent at Pati Point adding lines to a blueprint representing runways, taxiways and parking aprons designed for B-29 bombers to what would be called **North Field, (Andersen AFB)** Guam. Little did they know that those lines would help shorten WWII and remain the focal point for US presence in the Pacific well into the 21st century.

4 December 1944: Brig Gen Haywood Hansell moved the XXI Bomber Command, from Isely Field, Saipan to Guam Depot Field (Later Harmon Field), near Two Lover's Point. Later that week the advanced echelon of the 314th Bomb Wing (314 BW), North Field (AAFB), Guam arrived.



B-29s and bulldozers at North Field (AAFB), Guam early 1945. (USAF)

1 Jan 1945, B-24s of the 11 BG moved from NAS Agana to Guam Depot Field.

8 Jan 1945, construction commenced at North Field's sister base Northwest Field, Guam where the progress was much slower.

17 Jan 1945, asphalt began to be laid on the south runway and hardstands, North Field.

3 Feb 1945, after over two months of construction, North Field's south runway was declared operational when the 314 BW's administrative C-87/B-24 Liberator (Photo) was the first aircraft to land on the runway. The real celebration happened when Maj Gen LeMay, commander XXI Bomber Command, landed a F-13A Superfortress (Reconnaissance B-29) from the 3d Photographic Reconnaissance Squadron (3 PRS). Both aircraft were located at Guam Depot (Harmon) Field prior to the ceremony.



Marines moving up Salisbury-Tarague Trail during the last tank engagement on Guam, 8-10 August 1945. (USMC)



assistance.

20 Jun 2014, the 554th Red Horse Squadron completed the first mock course of **SILVER FLAG** at the PRTC, Northwest Field. In the past it was conducted by 554 RHS Det. 1, Kadena AB, Japan until Feb 2014.

26 Jun 2015, "Last Blast" a 20 EBS B-52H dropped the last M117, 750-lbs bomb from the PACAF's (36 MUNS) stockpile. The last Vietnam War Era ordnance was dropped on Farallon de Medinilla Island (FDM).



25 Apr 2015, Operation **SAHAYOGI HAAT** - a devastating magnitude 7.8 earthquake struck Nepal. The 36 CRG responded to call. Photo: 4 May 2015, the 36 CRG boards a C-17 Globemaster III, AAFB, bound for Nepal. (USAF)

15 Aug 2016, B-1B Lancers of the 34 EBS returned in support of PACOM's Continuous Bomber Presence (CBP) mission. It was the first time B-1Bs were part of CBP rotation since 23 Apr 2006.

7 Dec 2017, 11 years after the initial ground-breaking, the 554th RED HORSE Squadron held a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the conclusion of more than 70 construction projects, valued at \$251 million, making up the new PRTC on Northwest Field. Airmen throughout PACAF used the facilities to prepare for real-world contingency and deployment missions.

11 Dec 2017, Operation Christmas Drop 2017 was the first to feature 374 AW's new C-130J Super Hercules from Yokota AB, Japan.



19 May 2016, 69 EBS, B-52H, S/N 60-0047, crashed on AAFB while attempting to take off. All 7 Airmen egressed the plane safely. Photo: #0047's Nose art 'Neanderthaul' 23 BS. (USAF)

Late **Jan 2018**, Airmen from the 554 RED HORSE squadron, 36 CRG, AAFB, deployed to South Korea to assist the 7 AF in repairs and construction projects at multiple bases on the Korean Peninsula.

28 Sep 2018, a magnitude 7.5 earthquake and tsunami struck north of Palu, Indonesia, that left multitudes dead and thousands displaced. On 5 Oct, INDOPACOM sent three C-130J Super Hercules from 374 AW, Yokota AB, Japan, and 30 members from the 36 CRG, AAFB, to support U.S. Agency for International Development's (USAID) humanitarian assistance efforts.

25 Oct 2018, Super-Typhoon YUTU devastated the islands of Saipan and Tinian. The 36 CRG, 36 CES, and tenant units 734 AMS and USN's HSC-25 provided disaster relief from

AAFB.

28 Mar 2019, the 36th Mobility Response Squadron (36 MRS) redesignated to the 36th Contingency Response Squadron (36 CRS).

1 Jun 2019, the 36th Contingency Response Support Squadron (36 CRSS) activated on AAFB. It was the 5th Squadron assigned to the 36 CRG.

Despite constant changes and challenges, the 36th Wing and "Team Andersen" continue to be "Prepared to Prevail."



Gen O'Shaughnessy, PACAF Commander, visits Soldiers of the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command's Task Force Talon, THAAD on Northwest Field, 1 Feb 2017.

29 Jul 2015, Brig General Johnny Lizama, Guam Air National Guard GUANG), became the first Chamorro Airman promoted to USAF general officer.

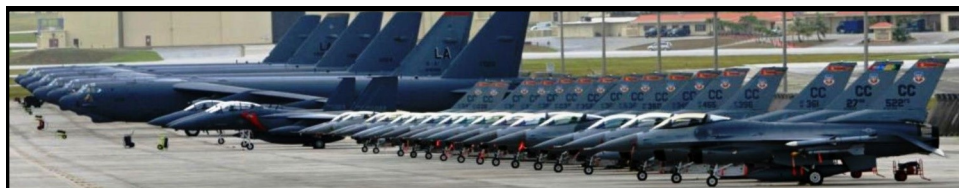
2 Aug 2015, Typhoon SOUDELOR passed right over the island of Saipan, CNMI, causing widespread damage to homes and the power distribution systems. Numerous agencies contributed to the disaster relief efforts including AAFB's Airmen from the 36 CRG and Sailors from the HSC-25; plus, Sailors and Marines of the USS Ashland (LSD-48).



8 Dec 2015, Operation CHRISTMAS DROP 2015, marked the first time that Airmen and aircraft from three different countries participating in the annual aero-delivery exercise. International partners' C-130 Hercules (Right to Left): USAF, the Japanese Air Self Defense Force, and the Royal Australian Air Force; all three nations have been part of this operation from Andersen AFB ever since.



17 Aug 2016, All three of AFGSC's strategic bombers simultaneously conducted operations in the U.S. PACOM area of operations for the first time in history. Photo: B-52H Stratofortress, B-1B Lancer, and B-2 Spirit conduct a flyover of Andersen AFB. (USAF)



522 EFS's F-16s and the 96 EBS's B-52Hs lined up on the South Ramp circa Jun-Sep 07. (USAF)

1 Jul 2008, 36th Mission Support Squadron (36 MSS), was redesignated as the 36th Force Support Squadron (36 FSS). The 36th Services Squadron (36 SVS) was inactivated. The missions of both the 36 MSS and 36 SVS were combined under the new 36 FSS umbrella.



10 Sep 2008, Grand Opening ceremony for the new 181,000 square foot AAFB AAFES Base Exchange.

6 Feb 2009, Joint Region Marianas (JRM) was established. During the ground breaking ceremony of the new JRM Headquarters on Nimitz Hill, Brig Gen Ruhlman attended the ceremony as the Deputy Commander JRM.

23 Feb 2008, 393 EBS, B-2 'Spirit of Kansas' S/N 87-0127, crashed while on take-off from AAFB. The estimated \$1.4 billion accident was the most expensive aircraft crash in history, both pilots ejected safely with minor injuries. (FAA)

5 Aug 2010, the 36th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron (36 EAMXS), provisional unit, was activated for deployed aircraft maintenance.

12 Mar—4 May 2011, Operation TOMADACHI—after the 8.9 Tōhoku earthquake and tsunami ravaged northern Honshu, Japan many 36 CRG Airmen deployed and the RQ-4 Global Hawk reconnaissance photos assisted the rescue and relief efforts.

6 Oct 2011, first Aviation Training Relocation (ATR). Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 115 and Strike Fighter Squadron 94 conducted aerial and ground training in the Marianas. ATR was training located outside of Japan for USAF, USMC, USN, and JASDF aircraft. It enabled increased operational readiness for maintainers, pilots, and support personnel, while managing the noise impacts of training in and around the local communities of Japan.



14 Dec 2011, CHRISTMAS DROP 2011, a C-130H Hercules aircrew from the 36th Airlift Squadron, Yokota AB, Japan, delivered 25 boxes of life-saving IV fluids to the Micronesian island of Fais from AAFB. The real-world emergency was an outbreak of dengue fever infecting 35 percent of the population of Fais which prompted a declaration of emergency.

11- 24 Feb 2012, first trilateral COPE NORTH 12 took place when the Australian (RAAF) joined USAF and JASDF for the exercise.

c. Apr 2013, the first elements of the US Army's Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) system arrived at Northwest field. The anti-ballistic missile system under the name "Task Force Talon" was brought to Guam in response to North Korea's threats to the Island.

21 Apr 2009, the stealth B-2 Spirit and F-22 Raptor's historic first OCONUS deployment together at AAFB, Guam. (USAF)

threats to the Island.

10 Nov – 4 Dec 2013, Operation DAMAYAN, 89 Airmen from the 36 CRG deployed to Tacloban, Philippines and the RQ-4 Global Hawk conducted reconnaissance in assisting the rescue and relief efforts after Super-Typhoon HAIYAN struck.



14 - 28 Feb 2014, Exercise COPE NORTH 14 turned real-world when the CNMI governor declared the island of Rota under a state of significant emergency due to shortage of food and other commodities. Cope North 14 participants provided the humanitarian



21 Jul 2008, 20 EBS B-52H, S/N 61-0053, nose art 'Louisiana Fire', call sign RAIDR 21, crashed while preparing for the annual Liberation Day Parade fly-over. All 6 Airmen onboard were killed. Photo: Raider 21 Memorial, Anigua, Guam, honors the memory of the six B-52H Airmen who lost their lives on Liberation Day 2008.



20 Sep 2010, Ceremony welcoming the RQ-4 Global Hawk to AAFB was held in Hangar 6. The 9th Operations Group, Det. 3's Global Hawk's brought significant intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR) capabilities to the Pacific theater.



Tail flashes of the 314th Bomb Wing, North Field, (AAFB) Guam, 1945-1946 (20 AF Anniversary Album)

25 Feb 1945, first combat mission from North Field. The 314 BWs trademark black square tail insignias (Above), continued to bomb Japanese targets until the end of the war.

26 Feb 1945, Commander Army Air Forces Pacific Ocean Area (Basically the PACAF of WWII) Lt Gen Willard Harmon's C-87 Liberator Express took off from Guam Depot Field, the next day it disappeared without a trace while enroute to Hawaii. Also onboard was his Chief of Staff Brig Gen James Roy Andersen. Both of these generals were instrumental in the building the airfields that would later bare their names.

9-10 Mar 1945, Operation MEETINGHOUSE, 325 (270) B-29 Superfortresses from three Mariana Islands' airfields, led by Guam's 314th Bomb Wing Commander Brig Gen Thomas Power, future Chief of Staff of the Strategic Air Command (SAC) dropped 1,667 tons of incendiary bombs destroying over 267,000 buildings over 16 square miles of Tokyo in one night during. Known in most circles as the single most destructive Airpower event in history.

6 Apr 1945, Although history maintains USN submarines discovered the Japanese super-battleship IJN Yamato first, an argument could be made that the 3d Photographic Reconnaissance Squadron (3 PRS) assigned to Harmon Field saw the battleship's movement first. In accordance with the 3 PRS History, Mission No. 121, an F-13A (B-29) recorded the Yamato and her escorts near Tokuyama. Then less than 36 hours later it was destroyed by USN carrier aircraft.



Lt Gen Millard F. Harmon, Commander Army Air Forces Pacific Ocean Area. (AAFB Archives)

12 Apr 1945, Radio Operator MSgt Henry "Red" Erwin of the 330th Bomb Group was severely burned when a phosphorus smoke ignited inside his B-29, City of Los Angeles. "Red" was the only Medal of Honor recipient from WWII B-29 operations and in USAAF/USAF Marianas Heritage. The current 36th Contingency Response Group (36 CRG) headquarters was dedicated in his name in 1997.



11 May 1945, B-29 Superfortress, S/N 42-63571, 52 BS, 29 BG, 314 BW, Call Sign "Dracula 44", exploded and crashed in the ocean off RWY 06R/24L the crew was KIA. A ceremony was held on a USCG boat at the location on 11 May 2005.

26 May 1945, on 13 Apr 45, Lt Col Doyne Turner, 458th Bomb Squadron Commander (458 BS), 330th Bomb Group (330 BG), North Field, Guam was on a bombing mission when his B-29 was shot down over Tokyo Bay. His unit

thought both the crew were killed or missing. They did not know they survived the crash and became prisoners of war (POWs). On this date, those POWs were killed during in another incendiary bombing mission by their own unit that burned down Yoyoge Army Prison. In 1946, the Turner Memorial (Outdoor) Theater was dedicated to him. The 736th Security Forces Sq. (736 SFS) Headquarters building is located there today.

1 Jun 1945, Northwest Field (NWF), Guam, dedication ceremony was attended by many USAAF and USN distinguished visitors of WWII including, Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz and Maj Gen Curtis LeMay. The 315th Bomb Wing Commander Brig Gen Frank Armstrong commanded a force of special B-29Bs sometimes called Eagles because of the Eagle Radar that allowed the bombers to attack Japanese targets at night.

13 Jun 45 - 4 Jan 1946 (& 15 Apr - 17 Jun 1946), 41st Photographic Reconnaissance Squadron (41 PRS) equipped with F-5G (Photo Recon version of the P-38) Lightnings were assigned to NWF.

22 Jun 1945, Pilot Capt Bauer accidentally crashed his B-29, nose art "Colleen" while attempting an emergency landing. The crash happened over the northwest side of Pati Point in the early morning hours. The tail gunner was the only survivor. In 1997, a couple of Airmen



The 314 BW's admin C-87/B-24 Liberator, nose art "Maximum Goose" was the first aircraft to ever land at North Field/Andersen AFB on 3 Feb 45. (AAFB Archives)

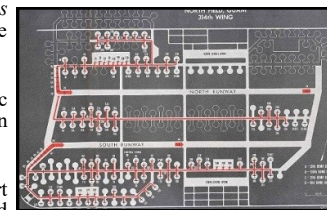


Diagram of North Field in March 1945. (AAFB Archives)

17 Apr 1946 - 3 Apr 1945, Northwest Field becomes a fighter base. First the 21st and then the famous 23d Fighter Groups "Flying Tigers" were assigned and equipped with P-47 *Thunderbolts* responsible for Marianas defense.

22 Feb 2008, Flag transfer ceremony of the 554th Red Horse (554 RHS) from 7th Air Force (7 AF) to 36 CRG. This transition marked the first time in USAF history, that a RED HORSE unit had been aligned under a Wing.

36TH WING ERA, 1994—

On 1 Oct 1994, the 36th Air Base Wing (36 ABW) activated at Andersen AFB; while the 633 ABW was inactivated. Prior to Guam, the 36th was the Fighter Wing (36 FW), Bitburg AB, Germany. Other units that also moved from USAFE and activated on Guam that day: 36 LG(MXG), 36 MDG, 36 SPTG(MSG), 36 CES, 36 CONS, 36 CS, 36 MDOS, 36 MDSS, 36 MSS(FSS), 36 MXS, 36 OSS, 36 SFS, 36 SPTS(LRS), & 36 CPTF.



1 Oct 1994, USN Helicopter Combat Support Squadron 5 (HC-5) "Providers" moved from NAS Agana to AAFB equipped with HH-46A Sea Knights. On 21 Apr 2005, HC-5 redesignated as HSC-25 "Island Knights."

5 Feb 1996, the first B-2 *Spirits* to ever land at AAFB were the *Spirits of 'Washington' and the 'California'* from the 509th Bomb Wing.

B-52H's first combat mission, Operation DESERT STRIKE from AAFB, 2-3 Sep 1996.

commenced. The two B-52Hs from Barksdale AFB started and ended their mission at AAFB, fired 13 conventional air launched cruise missiles (CALCM) against Iraqi targets simultaneously with USS Carl Vinson Battle Group in the Persian Gulf.

2-3 Sep 1996, Saddam Hussein attacked Kurds and seized the city of Irbil in a zone protected by the U.S. In response, Operation DESERT STRIKE



16 Sep 1996 - 30 Apr 1997, 6,572 Kurdish refugees from Iraq, along with an additional 64 Kurdish babies born on Guam, processed through AAFB during Operation PACIFIC HAVEN.

6 August 1997, Boeing 747, Korean Air Flight 801 crashed on Nimitz Hill. 228 of the 254 passengers and crew onboard, were killed. Both the Navy and Air Force units on Guam assisted with emergency efforts.

8 Nov 2000, 613th Contingency Response Squadron (613 CRS) activated. Assigned to the 13th Air Force.

Cope North '99 ends in 'victory'



21 June 1999, first joint exercise COPE NORTH at AAFB. It marked the first time the JASDF had deployed outside of Japan since WWII.

11 Apr 2001, Operation VALIANT RETURN— 13 AF and 36 ABW assisted the 24-member USN crew of a EP-3 *Aries II* that was involved in an, international incident, an accidental collision with a Chinese fighter jet. The EP-3 emergency landed at Hainan Island, China on 1 Apr 2001. A Continental

Airlines jet retrieved the crew from China and flew them to Andersen AFB, Guam, where they spent a few hours before departing on an C-17 to Hickam.

21-23 May 2001, AAFB hosted PACAF sponsored Combat Ammunition Production Exercise (CAPEX) for the first time. It was also the first Joint Services CAPEX. 300 service members from three different branches of the military i.e. Air Force, Army, and Navy, participated.

11 Sep 2001, at 2246L (Guam Time), American Airlines Flight 11 crashed into the North Tower of the World Trade Center, NY, the beginning of the 9/11 Terrorist Attacks.

14 Sep 2001, Operation NOBLE EAGLE—After the terrorist attacks in New York, Washington DC, and Pennsylvania, the 36 ABW hosted the VMFA-212 Lancers, Marine F/A-18 *Hornets*, MCAS Iwakuni. The VMFA-212 flew combat air patrol missions over Guam. They were the first Marine Corps squadron to deploy after the September 11 attacks.

Sep 2001—July 2002, Operation ENDURING FREEDOM—Andersen's flight line served as the epicenter for air bridge activity supporting and servicing 3,211 aircraft, 38,000 passengers and 60,000 tons of cargo.

30 Sep 2002, as a result of USAF-wide changes the following groups redesignated and became: 36th



Rows of KC-135s and KC-10s on the North Ramp during Operation ENDURING FREEDOM.

ANDERSEN AFB'S NAMESAKE

Brigadier General James "Jimmie" Roy Andersen



Born on 10 May 1904 in Racine, WI. Gen Andersen graduated in the top 4th of his class from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the infantry in 1926. Married his high school sweetheart after his graduation from West Point and went on to served as an infantry officer at Ft. Sheridan, IL, 1927-1929. He then served as an infantry officer with the 27th Infantry Regiment at Schofield Barracks in HI, 1929-1931.

In 1931-1933, he transferred to the Ordnance Department serving at Watertown Arsenal, Aberdeen, Md. Proving Ground Command; while there he studied at M.I.T. In 1934, after eight years as a second lieutenant he was promoted to First Lieutenant. Transferred to Picatinny Arsenal, NJ then to Selfridge Field, Michigan, 1934-1936.

By 1936, he applied for and began training as an Aviation Cadet at Randolph Field, TX. At advanced Training, Kelly Field, Texas; he received his wings as a member of the U.S. Army Air Corps in 1937. The newly promoted Captain then served as part of the defense force for the Hawaiian Islands from 1937 - 1939 with the 72D Bombardment Squadron (72 BS), 5th Bombardment Group (5 BG), 18th Composite Wing at Hickam Field, HI. He flew the Martin B-12A bomber until 1938 and then the Douglas B-18 *Bolo* until his departure. The commander of the 5 BG at the time was Col Millard F. Harmon.

1940 - 1942, he served as an instructor first in the Ordnance Department, then the Department of Chemistry and Electricity at the US Military Academy West Point. He was promoted to Major in 1940 and Lt Col in 1942. The went on to serve as the Director of Training at the Army Air Force Basic - Advanced Flying School for USMA Cadets, Stewart Field, NY where he helped implement the first ever flight training class for Army cadets. It was during this time he was promotion to Colonel, 1942 - 1943. Assigned 1943 - 1944, to the Strategy Section of the Operations Division of the War Department General Staff, Washington, D.C.

In 1944, Lt Gen Millard F. Harmon, Commander US Army Air Forces Pacific Ocean Areas (AAFPOA), the most senior AAF General Officer in the Pacific, personally selected Col Andersen to be his Chief of Staff. As Harmon's Chief of Staff, during the last six months of 1944, he assisted in the final planning and coordination for construction of the six B-29 bases in the Marianas, and the initial bombings of Japan. He also distinguished himself as the principal planner for the move of their headquarters to Guam, which was accomplished in January 1945. He was promoted to brigadier general just six weeks prior to his disappearance.

9 May 1946, North Field's first redesignation, Northfield Air Base Command.

11 Jun 1946, F-13A *Superfortress* (Photo Recon), S/N 42-94114, 3 PRS, 311 RW. Nose art "Wild Westy's Wabbits" crashed in the ocean off of RWY 06R/24L, entire crew killed.

20 Jun 1946, 20 F-5G *Lightnings* (Photo Recon P-38s) were destroyed by Typhoon DOLLY while in storage at Harmon Field.

26 Jun 1947, President Truman signs the National Security Act which called for Army, Navy, and Air Force to be equal within the new Department of Defense (DoD).

2 Aug 1947, 54th Reconnaissance Squadron (VLR) Weather arrived at Northfield Air Base Command. 54th specialized in typhoon chasing and would come and go under different designations until 1987.

18 Sep 1947, all air activities were transferred from the US Army to the new US Air Force.

15 Oct 1947, the designations of all of the weather squadrons were changed to 3-digit numbers. The 54th inactivated, and the 514th Reconnaissance Squadron (VLR) Weather, activated.

1 Mar 1948, North Field was redesignated a second time as North Air Force Base.

20 Apr 1948, 19 BG's B-29 S/N 44-61700 took off from North AFB; the bomber, nor its 11 crewmen were ever seen again. On 31 May 1948, Memorial Day, Maj Gen Francis H. Griswold, 20 AF/CC, presided over the dedication ceremony at the Memorial Field in this crew's honor. The same baseball field by the current BX.

22 Apr 1948, North Field was redesignated a third time as North Guam AFB.



Col Irvine and the crew of the record breaking YB-29J "Pacusan Dreamboat." (USAF)



MEDAL OF HONOR

Master Sergeant Henry “Red” Erwin, was the awarded the Medal of Honor after flying a B-29 combat mission from North Field, Guam. Decoration’s citation reads:

“Staff Sergeant Henry E. Erwin was the radio operator of a B-29 airplane leading a group formation to attack Koriyama, Japan, on April 12, 1945. He was charged with the additional duty of dropping phosphorous smoke bombs to aid in assembling the group when the rendezvous point was reached. Upon entering the assembly area, antiaircraft fire and enemy fighter opposition was encountered. Among the phosphorous bombs launched by Sergeant Erwin, one proved faulty, exploded in the launching chute, and shot back into the interior of the aircraft, striking him in the face. Smoke filled the plane, obscuring the vision of the pilot. Sergeant Erwin realized that the aircraft and crew would be lost if the burning bomb remained in the plane. Without regard for his own safety, he picked it up and, feeling his way, instinctively crawled around the gun turret and headed for the copilot's window. He found the navigator's table obstructing his passage. Grasping the burning bomb between his forearm and body, he unlatched the spring lock and raised the table. Struggling through the narrow passage he stumbled forward into the smoke-filled pilot's compartment. Groping with burning hands, he located the window and threw the bomb out. Completely aflame, he fell back upon the floor. The smoke cleared and the pilot at 300 feet pulled the airplane out of its dive. Sergeant Erwin's gallantry and heroism above and beyond the call of duty saved the lives of his comrades.”



14 May 1948, Operation SANDSTONE, 514 WRS provided eight WB-29s and crews for weather reconnaissance and radiation sampling for three nuclear tests conducted Eniwetok, Marshall Islands.

12 Oct 1948, Building 21000 was opened, nicknamed “The Little Pentagon in the Pacific” it was the first completely concrete building on Guam. Parts of the building began to be demolished in 2013.

1 Feb 1949, North Field was redesignated a fourth time as North Field AFB, Guam, only to be changed again in March to North Guam AFB.

15 May 1949, the 20 AF moved from Harmon AFB to Kadena AFB, Okinawa. The 19th Bomb Wing would briefly assume area control.

7 Oct 1949, North Field is redesignated, for the final time, as **Andersen Air Force Base (AAFB)**.

15 Nov 1949, Typhoon ALLYN struck Guam and destroyed most of Harmon Field’s structures, and the base was subsequently closed. Harmon’s Cliff line housing continued to be used until the early 1960’s. Northwest Field was effectively abandoned and absorbed into a greater AAFB.



Rare color photo of the 19th Bomb Wing Airmen's Club, 1952. (Bruce Young Collection)

KOREAN WAR ERA, 1950-1953

28 Jun 1950, outbreak of the Korean War, 25 Jun, the 19th Bomb Group (19 BG) sent its entire bomber fleet from Andersen AFB to Kadena AB, Okinawa, while still administratively attached to the 19 BW on Guam. Four B-29s, nose arts: “Double Whammy”, “The Outlaw”, “Lucky Dog”, and “Atomic Tom”, were flown on combat missions the very first day from Kadena. The 19 BG flew 645 missions, 5,950 sorties, dropped 52k tons of bombs, lost 91 Airmen, and 20 B-29s, all statistics were the most of any B-29 Bomb Group of the war.

6 Aug 1950, Strategic Air Command’s (SAC) B-29 and B-50 bomb units began rotating through AAFB. The base supported and maintained these aircraft. Years of bomber rotations to Guam include: 1950-1971 and 2004– Current.



19 BG, B-29 “No Sweat” over Korea, 1950. (Courtesy of Frank Farrell)

2 Sep 1950, Distinguished Flying Cross (DFC), Capt Charles Cloniger, 514 WRS, was awarded for his actions. He continued to monitor the strength and position of Typhoon JANE while flying with one engine shut out aboard the WB-29 nose art “Typhoon Goon.” Capt Cloniger’s information was very important for Gen MacArthur’s Amphibious Force who where loading in Japan at the time for the famous Inchon Landings.

20 Feb 1951, the 514 WRS inactivated and the 54th Strategic Reconnaissance Squadron (Medium) Weather, (54 WRS) activated at AAFB.



2 May 1986, President Ronald Reagan visited AAFB.

c. **Dec 1986**, the first “Rota Walk” in the similar form it has today started. It would expand greatly after the arrival of the 13th Air Force in 1991.

17 Sep 1987, First ever performance of the Thunderbirds at AAFB. It coincided with the 40th USAF birthday and AAFB’s “Open House ‘87.”

c. **Oct 88**: The host 43d Bombardment Wing traded its nuclear deterrent role for a conventional mission, and in the next year began redeploying to stateside bases. The 43rd would see inactivation on 30 Sept 1990.



Airmen deployed from AAFB return to a heroes welcome after Operation DESERT SHIELD & STORM, 1991.

PACIFIC AIR FORCES ERA, 1989—



12 Jun 1991, Operation FIERY VIGIL, Mt Pinatubo erupted in the Philippines and since the volcano was located only 12 miles from Clark AB the evacuation had started on 10 June. In the wake of the eruption and then a typhoon more than 18,000 American military and family members from the Philippines arrived on Guam. Photo: Mt Pinatubo evacuees being processed in one of the old hangars at AAFB.

1989, The thawing of the Cold War, AAFB became part of PACAF and saw the activation of the 633rd Air Base Wing (633 ABW). SAC’s 60 BS continued to fly B-52s out of Guam until Mar 1990. The 633 ABW’s life on AAFB was relatively short, inactivating on 1 Oct 1994.

1990–2011, AAFB was designated as a NASA emergency space shuttle landing site.

27 Mar 1990, Last B-52 to ever permanently assigned to AAFB departed to Australian Aviation Heritage Centre, Darwin.

17 Jan 1991, Operation DESERT STORM began on this date. 34 Airmen from AAFB were deployed to Middle East in support. On 1 Oct 90, the 1500th Strategic Wing (Provisional) stood up with B-52s less than a year after the 60 BS departed. The 1500th Strategic Wing (P) sent six B-52Gs to Diego Garcia to replace BUFFs that flew combat missions the first day of air operations.

20 Aug 1991, Airman Laurie Lucas dies from wounds sustained during Midnight Trail training exercises.

2 Dec 1991, An official flag raising and change of

command ceremony was held for the 13th Air Force (13 AF) who moved from Clark AB to AAFB.

29 Dec 1991, SSgt Stacey Levay is murdered while escorting the Commissary cash box to be deposited. Jose Simoy, a fellow Security Forces member, was given the death penalty.

23 Jan 1992, An Operation DESERT STORM damaged B-52G S/N 58-0234 was blown up on AAFB and scrapped at AAFB.



Bombs away!
Ammo troops restack bombs shaken loose by earthquake



21-29 Jul 1992, Potts Junction entrance to Northwest Field and NAS Agana were sites of protests by future Guam Senator Angel Santos and the Nasion Chamoru Activist Group.

28-29 Aug 1992, Typhoon OMAR, strongest typhoon and caused the most damage since PAMELA in 1976. Photo: USN KC-130F #149793 from VRC-50 is trapped by a partially collapsed hangar in the aftermath of Typhoon OMAR which caused severe damage to AAFB and the surrounding area. (USAF SSgt Gary Coppage, via C-130.net)

8 Aug 93: A 8.1 Earthquake struck Guam resulting in various damages to Guam and AAFB. In spite of the damage, AAFB declared ready for Air Operations within 14 hours after the quake.

Andersen quieted considerably after Operation NEW LIFE ended. The post-Vietnam period brought the return to routine operations. AAFB continued to be a vital overseas platform for carrying out SAC's global deterrence mission. This era in the base's history has been referred to as "Sleepy Hollow," but the events below tell a much different story.



c. Jan 1976: Military Housing in Andy South started to be built. The area is currently being used for Urban Warfare Training.

21-25 Aug 1976, Operation PAUL BUNYAN, B-52Ds from AAFB along with many other U.S. aircraft responded to the DMZ. This was the result of two U.S. soldiers killed by N. Korean Army personnel on 18 Aug 76 in the "Axe Murder Incident" over a disagreement about a tree trimming on the DMZ.

18 Feb 1983, First visit to AAFB by a KC-10A *Extender*.

12 Oct 1983, the last B-52D, known for their Southeast Asia black and camouflage paint scheme, departed AAFB. During Operation LINEBACKER II, the same B-52, S/N 56-0676, was the first B-52 to shoot down an enemy aircraft. It is currently on static display at



Fairchild AFB, WA.

28 Feb 1986, Former Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos was exiled to the U.S., his first stop was AAFB.

The Air Force is outlining the program to develop the aircraft for the Air Force and the Navy. The Air Force is the primary customer for the program, and the Navy is the secondary customer. The program is a joint effort between the two services, and the Air Force is the lead agency. The program is a joint effort between the two services, and the Air Force is the lead agency. The program is a joint effort between the two services, and the Air Force is the lead agency.

19 Mar 1951, Col Payne Jennings, 19 BG/CC and his B-29 crew were killed in combat after dropping a 12,000 lbs. "Tarzon" bomb. Last seen with two engines out the aircraft crashed into the China Sea. The AAFB Officers Housing area near the main gate was renamed "Jennings Manor" in his honor.

4-16 Jul 1952, Operation FOX PETER ONE (Fighters Pacific, Operation No. 1), AAFB was one of the major stops for the: First mass movement of jet fighters (60 F-84G *Thunderjets*, 31st Fighter Escort Wing) across the Pacific. First mass midair refueling movement of jet fighters (24 KB-29P *Superfortresses* of the 91 ARS). Longest mass movement of a complete jet fighter wing by air, at the time. Longest mass nonstop over-water flight 1,860 nautical miles by jet fighters, at the time. First of what would become a normal event for the USAF as countless fighters since have been air refueled and escorted across the Pacific Ocean called, "Coronet Missions" by KC-135 *Stratotankers* and KC-10 *Extenders*.

c. 1952, Annual Christmas Drop, tradition holds that it began when an Airmen on a WB-29, *Superfortress*, 54th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron (54 WRS) dropped some goodies to the people of Kapingamarangi island in 1952. Christmas Drop is now the longest running Humanitarian effort in the DoD and the world.



27 Jul 1953, an armistice ending combat during the Korean War. A demilitarized zone is created along the 38th parallel.



26 Oct 1952, 54 WRS., WB-29
S/N 44-69970, Nose art:
"Typhoon Goon II", and crew
were lost from AAFB while pene-
trating Typhoon WILMA 300
NM east of Leyte, Philippines.
This was the first loss of any
USAF Weather Service aircraft
during either hurricane or typhoon
recon. (*awra.us, Photo by Ray
Brashear*)

17 Dec 1953, The Worst Accident in AAFB History, 9 BW, B-29MR *Superfortress*, S/N 44-87741, redeploying to Mountain Home AFB suffered engine failure and crashed into Jennings Manor Officers' Housing while attempting to land. The crash killed nine of the crew and passengers; plus, 10 men, women, and children on the ground. (*Lee Corbin*)

A black and white photograph showing a massive B-29 bomber aircraft on a runway. The aircraft is viewed from a low angle, emphasizing its size. A large group of people and several vintage cars are gathered in the foreground, looking up at the plane. The background shows a flat landscape under a clear sky.

28 Jan 1954, Last Executions in the USAF occurred when two Airmen were hung by an old abandoned hangar at Northwest Field. They were convicted of the 1948 rape and murder of Ruth Farnsworth.



18 Jun 1954, SAC established the 3d Air Division (3 AD) at AAFB as a tenant unit.

16 Oct 1954, the 92d Bomb Wing (92 BW), Fairchild AFB, deployed to Guam. This marked the first time an entire B-36 *Peacemaker* wing deployed overseas. The giant B-36s would deploy only twice to AAFB, 16 Oct 54 - 12 Jan 55 and 26 Apr - 6 Jul 56 before the B-52 *Stratofortress* replaced them in the USAF. (Photo Above).

PERMANENT STRUCTURES



Quonset and prefab housing, circa 1957
(AAFB Archives)

Andersen AFB was originally comprised of rows of temporary wartime structures called Quonset Huts (Q-Huts). Then from the late 1940s through 1965 the base was under almost perpetual construction, transforming the environment with permanent, typhoon-proof concrete structures.

One especially important area was housing — until 1960 the majority of Andersen's Airmen and families lived in Quonset Huts or wooden prefabricated units, located on base or in detached AF housing areas at Northwest Field, Harmon, Marbo, or in private rentals.

Slowly, the base housing areas became concrete. Fleming Heights nicknamed "Flintstones", houses were completed in 1949. Most of the dorms on the base were

built 1950-1954. Roberts Terrace housing area was completed in 1956. Capehart Housing's 1050 units completed on 2 Aug 1960, ended most of the Air Force's housing problems on Guam.

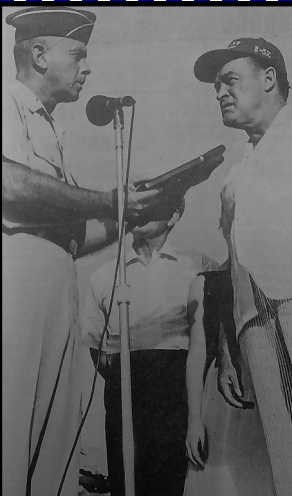
Fortunately, typhoon-proof housing was available before Super-typhoon Karen struck in 11 Nov 1962. It destroyed most of the non-concrete structures on Guam, including much of the base's remaining WWII-era infrastructure.

Post-Karen rebuild project of 1963-65 resulted in the construction of fifteen new major buildings including: The AMC Terminal, Chapel Two, NCO Club (now Top of the Rock), and the Bowling Alley/Hot Spot/Shopette complex.

Following the Karen Rebuild, apart from upgrades and beautification projects, AAFB saw very little new construction until after the 9/11 Attacks in 2001.



Super-Typhoon KAREN's total destruction of Guam's villages prompted the construction of buildings in concrete.
(AAFB Archives)



c. Dec 1957, Bob Hope performed his first USO show on Guam with Jane Mansfield. It was the first of nine Christmas USO Shows on AAFB. He would later return in 1962 and then for his famous Vietnam War shows: 1964, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, and 1972. **Photo:** Bob Hope and Maj Gen Crumm at AAFB, 30 Dec 1965.
(Base Newspaper)

1 Apr 1955, SAC took over the base completely when the 3 AD assumed area control and the 6319th Air Base Wing inactivated and the 3960 ABW activated. The Cold War had arrived to the Mariana Islands to stay.

1 Mar 1956, the first air-conditioned theater on Guam "Meehan Theater" opened its doors to much fanfare on AAFB. Many distinguished visitors including Governor Ford Q. Elvidge attended the first movie "Strategic Air Command" starring Jimmy Stewart. Officially dedicated 12 Jun 57, Meehan Theater was named after Col Arthur W. Meehan, 90th Bomb Group Commander who disappeared during a WWII combat mission from Australia, 14-15 Nov 43.

5 Aug 1956, fighter aircraft returned to Guam for defensive purposes when the 41st Fighter Interceptor Squadron (41 FIS) arrived from Misawa, Japan. 41 FIS was equipped with F-86 *Sabrejets* and remained integral part of AAFB until inactivation in March 1960.

5 Oct 1956, Operation LUMBER JACK, the first B-47E *Stratojets* arrived at AAFB. Airmen had to focus extreme attention on Foreign Object Debris (FOD) awareness with two jet powered aircraft units (Including the F-86 *Sabrejets*) on Andersen.

22 Jan 1957, the last B-29 departed AAFB after almost 12 years in the Marianas. The aircraft was an WB-29 from the 54 WRS.

14 Aug 1957, Brig Gen James V. Edmundson, SAC's Deputy Director of Operations, flew a 321 BW B-47 nonstop from Andersen AFB to Sidi Slimane, Morocco, North Africa. He set a B-47 record for distance and time aloft: 11,450 miles in 22 hours 50 minutes.

3 Oct 1957, fiction novelist James Michener famous for the book "Tales of the South Pacific" visited Guam while researching for his new book about SAC. Later, his C-47 ditched about two miles from the island of Iwo Jima. He was rescued, but all his notes were lost and he never finished the book.

Andersen Street Names

SPAATZ AVENUE

General Carl A. Spaatz

CRUMM AVENUE

Major General William J. Crumm

LEMAY LANE

Brigadier General Curtis E. LeMay

TWINING AVENUE

General Nathan F. Twining

KENNEY AVENUE

General George C. Kenney

VANDENBURG AVENUE

General Hoyt S. Vandenburg

O'MALLEY AVENUE

General Jerome F. O'Malley

DOOLITTLE AVENUE

General James H. Doolittle

MITCHELL AVENUE

Colonel Billy Mitchell

For more information on these honored individuals, stop by our

Heritage Room in the AMC Terminal

Other Heritage on Andersen AFB



Brig Gen Andersen's general officer's flag is on display in the HQ small conference room wall and has been a part of AAFB heritage for many years. In 1988, Mrs. Andersen, the general's widow, passed away and she willed it to the base.



The wreckage of the B-29 "Colleen" crash site is located down the cliff line on north-west side of Pati Point. The whole crash site was disturbed during the search for the crew remains and their personal items in 1998. The B-29's remnants are very deteriorated after being exposed to the Guam climate for almost 70 years.



The "Last Mission" Memorial at Northwest Field commemorates the last bombing mission of WWII by the 315th Bomb Wing, Northwest Field, Guam 14 - 15 August 1945. The following Bomb Wings were also on missions that night: 73 BW, Saipan; 313 BW, Tinian; and 314 BW, Guam.

17. **Lucas-LeVay Building:** On December 17, 2004, the new 36th Security Forces Building was dedicated to two fallen security forces personnel. Both Airman Laurie Lucas and Sergeant Stacy LeVay lost their lives in the line of duty on Andersen AFB (See Chronology).
18. **Lafferty Hall and Plaque:** This dorm across from 36th Wing Headquarters is where SAC's 60th Bomb Squadron crews lived while on alert. In 1984, B-52 navigator 1Lt Michael Lafferty was killed off base, and in early 1985 the building was dedicated in his honor. A small plaque can be found on the outside stairwell facing the parking lot.
19. **Tin City Steps:** Going down into a grassy field, this small flight of steps is the last remnant of a vast metal barracks complex built for deployed maintenance crews during the Vietnam War. Ironically, the barracks also housed hundreds of Vietnamese refugees in 1975, during Operation NEW LIFE. The units were largely destroyed by Typhoon Pamela in 1976.
20. **Top of the Rock:** This facility was built in 1963 as the base's NCO club, as part of the Typhoon Karen Rebuild project.
21. **F-4E Static Display:** Mounted 1991, on the grounds of the old Skyview outdoor theatre, this memorial commemorates AAFB's role as an important stopover point for thousands of jets on their way to and from Southeast Asia in the 1960's and early 1970's. It was repainted as the 36th WG's flagship in late 2007, then restored and repainted as S/N 69-0236, the 36th Tactical Fighter Wing 36 TFW) flagship in the early 1970s.
22. **Fleming Heights Housing:** Nicknamed "Flintstones" houses, Fleming Heights was the first permanent concrete housing constructed at AAFB. Built in the late 1940's, the small but significantly upgraded structures have withstood multiple typhoons and earthquakes over the last half century.
23. **Chapel II:** This striking structure's completion in 1964 marked the end of the post-Typhoon Karen Rebuild at Andersen.
24. **B-52E "Grey Ghost" Relic:** Three B-52s shared the same nickname "Grey Ghost" from 1966-1980. An actual tail section of the second "Grey Ghost" B-52E #56-0637 still remains where Super Typhoon Pamela placed it in 1976.
25. **Tarague Embayment Monument and Overlook:** The monument at this overlook explains the ecology of the area. It is also the best spot on base for photographing Guam's natural beauty.
26. **Sander's Slope:** The site of the last tank engagement on Guam during WWII.



30 May 1958, the first visit to AAFB by the B-52 *Stratofortress* and the KC-135 *Stratotanker*. They stayed for a weekend visit as part of the base open house event. This would start over six decades of relationship between the B-52/KC-135 combination at AAFB.

18 Nov 1959, numerous UFO sighting around AAFB on this date. There were so many reports that it ended up being written in the official annual 3d Air Division History.

8 Mar 1960, the 41 FIS, the last fighter squadron assigned to AAFB, departed.

19 Sep 1960; "The Forgotten Crash", a C-118/DC-6, leaving the MAC Terminal at NAS Agana crashed into Barrigada Heights and killed 80 of 94 mostly military and dependents. This was the worst recorded crash on Guam until Korean Airlines Flight 007 in 1997.

26-31 Jan 1961; Operation HAPPY HOUR, Martin TM-61 *Matador* Missiles were test fired from Northwest Field to the island of Farallon de Medinilla (FDM).

14 – 28 Oct 1962, AAFB was in high alert in response to the Cuban Missile Crisis.

11 Nov 1962, Super-Typhoon **KAREN** struck Guam with Category 5 winds. 11 people were killed and approximately 45,000 were left homeless. 13 - 17 Nov 62, PACAFBASECOM agencies at Hickam AFB operated 24-hours-a-day to support military dependents evacuated from Guam. In addition, the Air Force joined other military and civilian agencies in Operation HANDCLASP, which consisted of collecting donations of food, clothing, and other items to be flown or shipped to Guam.

4 Dec 1962, Lockheed C-121G *Super Constellation* crashed on Nimitz Hill while carrying emergency supplies to Guam after Super-Typhoon Karen had caused much infrastructure damage to the island.

29 Mar 1964, the first B-52 deployed rotation squadrons from 95th and 22d Bomb Wings arrived for "Alert Duty" as first Reflex Operations. The first deployed B-52B to land was the "City of El Paso" S/N 53-0394.

15 Jun 1964, the 1507th Support Squadron and the MATS terminal moved from NAS Agana to AAFB.



OPERATION ARC LIGHT

18 June 1965, Strategic Air Command B-52Fs attacked communist positions in South Vietnam under the code name Operation ARC LIGHT. Gradually, they also hit enemy strongholds in Laos, Cambodia and southern North Vietnam. Flying at altitudes where they could not be heard on the ground, the B-52s gave the enemy little warning. Often, the first the communists knew they were under attack was when bombs exploded around them. If the B-52s hit enemy forces concentrated for an attack, like during the siege of Khe Sanh and the North Vietnamese invasion of South Vietnam in April 1972, the results were devastating. The first Arc Light B-52s were deployed to Andersen AFB on Guam, but the 2,600-mile flight from Guam to South Vietnam took six to seven hours. This distance made it difficult to attack the mobile enemy forces, and the aircraft required aerial refueling. To reduce the response time and lessen the need for aerial tankers, B-52s were also stationed at the U-Tapao Royal Thai Navy Airfield, Thailand. Throughout the war, the Strategic Air Command (SAC) had to provide B-52s for operations in Southeast Asia while also keeping B-52s on nuclear alert duties. To meet both requirements, SAC rotated B-52 aircrews into Guam and Thailand on temporary duty status, which meant the aircrews did not receive official credit for combat missions. Still, when Arc Light operations ended in August 1973, B-52 aircrews had flown about 125,000 sorties (one sortie equals one aircraft on one mission) and dropped almost 3.5 million tons of bombs. Over half of all Arc Light missions were flown over South Vietnam, and the rest struck targets in Cambodia, Laos and North Vietnam.

- USAF Fact Sheet



B-52F 1965-66



B-52D 1966-73



B-52G 1972-73

VIETNAM WAR ERA, 1965-1975

Base operations began to evolve significantly with the arrival of the first B-52 units to take over SAC's alert mission in 1964. As America's involvement in Southeast Asia escalated more B-52s arrived on Guam as part of an eight-year campaign called Operation ARC LIGHT.



21 Feb 1966, Brig Gen Jimmy Stewart, USAFR, and famous Actor (Left) came to AAFB and flew an ARC LIGHT mission over Vietnam on a B-52F. Gen Crumm is in the center of the photo. (Base Newspaper)

18 Jun 1965, ARC LIGHT One, the first B-52 bombing mission over Vietnam. 30 B-52Fs took off from AAFB, tragically two of the BUFFs collided in midair and eight crewmen were lost. It was during this time that Andersen AFB became synonymous with the B-52.

29 Jun 1965, the last B-47 Stratojet departed AAFB. It was a weather WB-47E version from the 54 WRS.

17 Sep 1965, as part of the "Corona Project", the Guam Tracking Station became operational at Northwest Field, where Det. 2, 21st Space

Operations Squadron operates over 50 years later.

2 Jul 1966, Rabies outbreak on Guam. Importation of all animals was halted for a year.

c. Dec 1966, Operation PURPLE DRAGON, Operational Security (OPSEC) in its infancy, started at AAFB and in other SAC units operating in the Vietnam area.



21 Mar 1967, President Johnson, S. Vietnam's President Nguyen Van Thieu and PM Nguyen Cao Ky, and all of the President's Cabinet visited AAFB. The President awarded 12 B-52F crewmen medals and spoke in front of the current 36 WG Headquarters Bldg. in the rain. It was also the first time Andersen Radio broadcasted a live event to AFRT and around the world. (Base Newspaper)

10 Apr 67: Operation POKER DICE, 3 AD sent three B-52s from AAFB to U-Tapao, Thailand to open that base for B-52 operations.

7 Jul 67: Maj Gen William J Crumm, Commander 3d Air Div, AAFB was lost when his B-52D collided with another B-52D and both crashed about 20 miles of the Vietnam coast. Maj Gen Crumm is the highest ranking US military officer still missing in action, but is presumed dead. (See Photo Above)

23 Jan 1968, Operation PORT BOW, after the USS Pueblo was seized by N. Korea, nine more B-52Ds were added to AAFB and 15 stateside B-52Ds were sent to Kadena AB, Okinawa, as part of the 4252 SW. This brought more bombers closer in support of USMC during the SIEGE OF KHE SANH.

10 May 1969, B-52D Strato fortress, S/N 56-0593, 509 BW attached to the 4133 BS (P) crashed into the ocean after takeoff from AAFB, all were KIA.

27 Jul 1969, B-52D Strato fortress S/N 56-0630, 7 BW, with 509 BW crew onboard, attached to the 4133 BS (P), suffered structural failure after takeoff from AAFB, all were KIA.

1 Apr 1970, The 8th Air Force replaced the 3d Air Division, the 43d Strategic Wing replaced the 3960th Strategic Wing, and the 4133d Strategic Wing (Provisional) inactivated at AAFB.

18 April 1970, F-4D, S/N 65-0616, 12 TFW, transiting to the Vietnam War crashed on base during take off. One crewmen was killed and one injured.



16 Mar 1966, when NASA's Gemini 8 mission went awry and landed 430 NMI east of Okinawa, instead of the Atlantic. The secondary recovery forces included AAFB's 79 ARRS, HC-54

Rescuemaster, positioned at Naha, Okinawa. The pilot saw the capsule dropping from the sky, three pararescuers (PJs) jumped from the aircraft and stood by the capsule until a USN destroyer pick up the astronauts and capsule. (NASA)

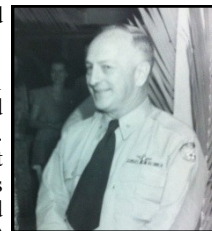


1966, probably the most famous photograph of Operation ARC LIGHT. The B-52D S/N 55-0100 "Old 100" drops its bomb load over Vietnam. (USAF)

construction indicated that the USAF was planning to stay on Guam after WWII.

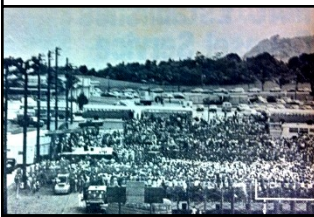
10. Tropicana: This building is currently used by deployed squadrons, but was originally a service club built in the mid 1950's as part of SAC's build up on the base.

11. Old Gilkeson Field: In honor of Brig Gen Adlai H Gilkeson, who had a long and distinguished career in the Pacific Theater. Currently the base's running track, this field at one time had bleachers where Andersenites watched the Bombers football team. The field was also used for Bob Hope's regular USO visits in the 1960's and early 1970's.



Col Adlai H Gilkeson

12. Meehan Theater: Opened 1 Mar 56, this theatre has been the center of AAFB's and hosts films, plays, shows, talks and briefings. It is named for Col Meehan, 90th Bomb Group commander who disappeared in 1942.



A crowd of 17,000 to see Bob Hope's USO show at Gilkeson Field, 1970

13. Chapel 1: Built in 1955, this unique structure has served the spiritual needs of Andersenites

14. Latte Stone Point: Located in front of the HQ building, these two

authentic Latte Stones have been at this location since the late 1959 after being excavated from the Maagas River, Fena area, in south-central Guam.

15. AAFB Monument: On 25 Apr 50, Brig Gen Andersen's son and widow, James Roy Jr and Mrs. Ester Andersen, were present for the dedication ceremony of Andersen AFB. The plaque was originally placed in front of the 19th Wing Headquarters, the current site of the Arc Light Memorial. In September 2007, marking the AF's 60th anniversary, it was installed at the 36th Wing HQ and the base was re-dedicated by Brig Gen Owens, 36 WG/CC.



Latte Stone Point, 1960



James Roy Jr. and Ester Andersen, 1950.

16. Henry "Red" Erwin Building: The current 36 CRG building commemorates WWII hero and Medal of Honor recipient MSgt (ret) Henry Erwin. Inside the building are plaques for all Air Force Medal of Honor winners, with the exception of two most recent recipients AIC William H. Pitsenbarger and CMSgt Richard L. Etchberger

- Arc Light Memorial:** Standing on the site of the original WWII and Korean War Wing HQ building, the monument lists the names of all B-52 crewmen who lost their lives during the Operation ARC LIGHT bombing campaign (1965-1973), including LINEBACKER II. It was dedicated on 12 Feb 1974.
- B-52 Static:** The original "Old 100" B-52D S/N 55-0100 was placed at Arc Light Memorial in 1973. Then, due to severe corrosion "Old 100" was removed and replaced by B-52D S/N 56-0586 in 1983.
- Revetment Memorial:** Although the revetment was blown away by Typhoon Omar in 1992, this memorial plaque reminds us of an important aspect of Vietnam wartime operations on Andersen.
- Combat Skyspot Memorial:** In memory of the ground radar network used in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam War, and the 18 Skyspot men who gave their lives, one of whom is was a Medal of Honor recipient. The Skyspot antenna rested here until destroyed by Typhoon Pongsona, but the base and plaque still remain.
- Munitions Memorial:** The bomb static displays and memorial are a poignant reminder of the munitions Airmen and the their hard work here during the Vietnam War.
- Outdoor Stage:** Until the early 1960s, this was the location of the rotational bomb wing headquarters. During the 1970s and 1980s, the area was used Sister Village huts, traditional Chamorro buildings constructed in miniature to commemorate the Sister Village sponsorship program. It is now a focal point for various outdoor events.
- Heritage Hall:** Located in the AMC Terminal, a timeline of the Air Force presence in the Pacific is illustrated with displays. You can also find a large collection of model airplanes, and trivia for kids.
- Old and New Control Towers:** The structure on the left opened in 1971 and is the tallest freestanding control tower in the AF. At one point it was also the tallest building on Guam. The cylindrical structure on the right, now used for hanging parachutes was the old control tower with its top removed built in 1954.
- Building 21000:** Called "the little Pentagon of the Pacific" when opened on 12 October 1948, it is the largest and oldest building on Andersen. Currently home of the base library and the banks. 21000 was originally built as a barracks (and still occasionally used as such). Its all concrete



The last ARC LIGHT Memorial B-52D Stratofortress "Old 100" (S/N 56-0586 painted as 55-0100) was scrapped in Apr 2014.



Sister Village huts, 1971



Control Towers, Early 1970s



10 Jul 1970, The first C-5 *Galaxy* landed at AAFB

c. Aug 1970, Hollywood Movie "Noon Sunday" was filmed at Tarague Beach and other locations around Guam.

8 May 1972, Operation LINEBACKER I, bombing in N. Vietnam, was authorized by President Nixon to push back the North Vietnamese Army (NVA) Easter Offensive. B-52s from AAFB and U-Tapao participated in this operation.

8-9 Jul 1972, B-52G *Stratofortress*, S/N 59-2600, 72 BW, crew bailed out of their ailing aircraft after takeoff in the path of Typhoon RITA, approx. 300 NM west of Guam. Rescue and weather aircraft from AAFB were overhead. However, no surface ships could reach the crew because of the approx. 40 ft. seas and typhoon force winds. Amazingly, two USN submarines the USS *Barb* and USS *Gurnard* rescued all but one of the crewmen.



1972-1973, BULLET SHOT/LINEBACKER II, so many large aircraft on AAFB's ramp that KC-135s had to be backed into old WWII hardstands with their tails hanging like trees over Perimeter Rd (Now Arc Light Blvd.). (*Base Newspaper*)

12 Jul 1972, AAFB's current tower officially opened, its 168.5 feet tall with 223 steps. When it was built it was the tallest tower in the Air Force.

25 Oct 1972, The largest movement of aircraft in AAFB history. Typhoon Olga was bearing down on Guam, all of the Operation BULLET SHOT +/- 175 aircraft had to evacuate to other locations in the Pacific Region. The typhoon never hit Guam.

18 Dec 1972, Operation LINEBACKER II when North Vietnam showed its unwillingness to negotiate, the USAF unleashed the B-52s out of AAFB and U-Tapao. During this "11-Day War" there were over 153 B-52s on the ramp supported by an estimated 15,000 Airmen (a third of whom were maintainers). It was a defining moment for the base. North Vietnam was effectively brought back to the negotiating table allowing for the U.S. withdrawal from Vietnam.



AMMO Airman prepping a bomb for an ARC LIGHT B-52 mission.

15 Aug 1973, Last ARC LIGHT mission, B-52s bombed locations in Cambodia prior to the cease fire order.

26-29 Oct 1973, Oil Embargo Crisis. 86 B-52s redeployed to the states during the Crisis that also stopped the Annual Operation Christmas Drop from happening, the only time since started in 1952.

12 Feb 1974, Arc Light Memorial Dedication was held exactly one year after the release of the Vietnam War POWS. The memorial honored the 75 B-52 crewman who were killed during Operation ARC LIGHT. A total of 33 B-52s were also lost during the war.

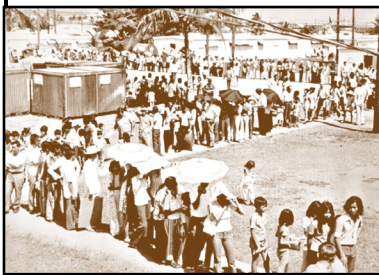


Arc Light Memorial, B-52D "Old 100", c. 1999.

20 Apr 1974, 374 TAW, C-130 *Hercules*, S/N 62-1841, crashed on base after takeoff on a flight to the U.S.

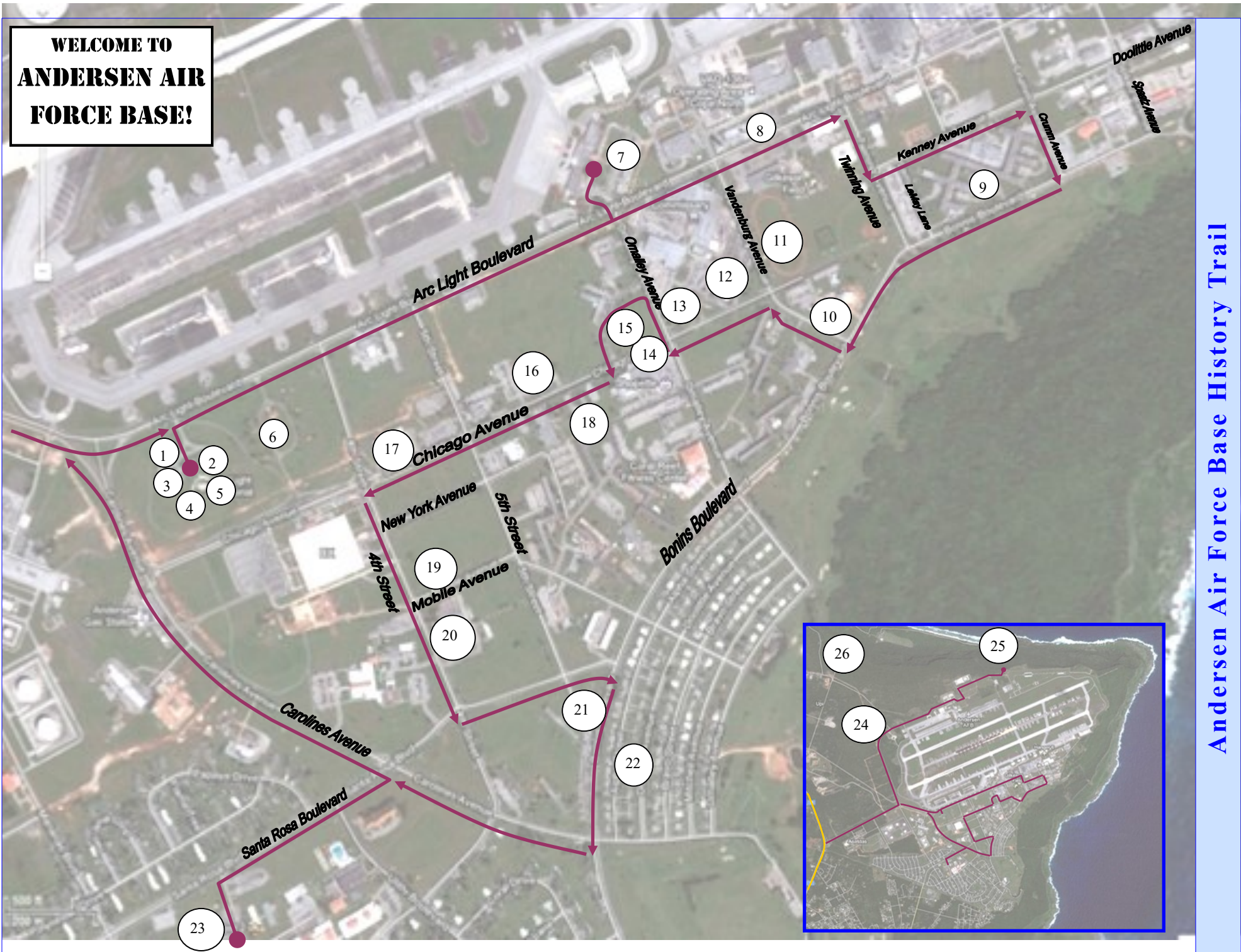
23 Apr 1975, Operation NEW LIFE, repercussions of the US's withdrawal came in less than three years when the re-strengthened North Vietnam invaded the South. This event caused a major refugee crisis. AAFB received more than 34,000 of the 112,000 refugees who arrived on Guam. By August., over 109,000 were processed through and departed out of AAFB to bases in the U.S.

23 Dec 1975, The last Vietnam era operation ceased on AAFB when the last of the KC-135 "Young Tigers" aircraft departed.



Vietnamese refugees in a line at "Tin City." (AAFB Archives)

**WELCOME TO
ANDERSEN AIR
FORCE BASE!**



Andersen Air Force Base History Trail